

**Amendments to the Claims:**

Please amend the claims as shown below. This Listing of Claims will replace prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1-19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) An automatic document feeder comprising:

a document tray on which a plurality of documents can be placed;

a separating section configured to separate the documents placed on the document tray one by one;

a feeding section configured to feed the separated document ~~separated by the separating section~~ to a document reading position;

an input section for inputting information on ~~the~~ material of the document;

a sensor section provided between the separating section and the document reading position and configured to detect passage of a document separated by the separating section; and

a separation control section for controlling timing of starting a separating operation of a next document in the separating section based on whether a leading edge of the next document is detected but a trailing edge of a preceding document is not detected ~~an output~~ from the sensor section, wherein the separation control section controls the separating section so that the timing of starting a separating operation of a next document in a case where the information on the material of the document inputted by the input section is predetermined information is later than the timing of starting a separating operation of a next document in a case where the information on the material of the document inputted by the input section is not the predetermined information.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The automatic document feeder according to Claim 20, wherein the input section inputs information on whether or not the document is a recording sheet had been recorded in color.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The automatic document feeder according to Claim 20, wherein the input section inputs information set by a console section of a connected imaging device or information set by a console section of the document feeder.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) An automatic document feeder connected to an imaging device comprising:

a document tray on which a plurality of documents can be placed;

a separating section configured to separate the documents placed on the document tray one by one;

a feeding section configured to feed the separated document ~~separated by the separating section~~ to a document reading position;

a sensor section provided between the separating section and the document reading position and configured to detect passage of a document separated by the separating section;

a determining section determining whether the recording mode of the imaging device is a color recording mode or a monochrome recording mode; and

a separation control section for controlling timing of starting a separating operation of a next document in the separating section based on whether a leading edge of the next document is detected but a trailing edge of a preceding document is not detected ~~an output~~ from the sensor section,

wherein the separation control section controls the separating section so that the timing of starting a separating operation of a next document in a case where the recording mode of the imaging device is the color recording mode is later than the timing of starting a separating operation of a next document in a case where the recording mode of the imaging device is the monochrome recording mode.

27-33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) ~~AN~~ The automatic document feeder according to Claim 20, wherein the sensor section includes a first sensor and a second sensor provided downstream of the first sensor, and wherein the separation control section controls the separating section to start a separating operation of a next document based on an output from the first sensor in a case where the information on the material of the document inputted by the input section is not the predetermined information, and controls the separating section to start a separating operation of a next document based on an output from the second sensor in a case where the information on the material of the document inputted by the input section is the predetermined information.

35. (Canceled)

36. (Currently Amended) ~~AN~~ The automatic document feeder according to Claim 26, wherein the sensor section includes a first sensor and a second sensor provided downstream of the first sensor, and wherein the separation control section controls the separating section to start a separating operation of a next document based on an output from the first sensor in a case where the information on the material of the document inputted by the input section is not the predetermined information, and controls the separating section to start a separating operation of a next document based on an output from the second sensor in a case where the information on the material of the document inputted

by the input section is the predetermined information.

37. (Canceled)